

# Package ‘RFCCA’

February 9, 2024

**Title** Random Forest with Canonical Correlation Analysis

**Version** 2.0.0

**Description** Random Forest with Canonical Correlation Analysis (RFCCA) is a random forest method for estimating the canonical correlations between two sets of variables depending on the subject-related covariates. The trees are built with a splitting rule specifically designed to partition the data to maximize the canonical correlation heterogeneity between child nodes. The method is described in Alakus et al. (2021) <[doi:10.1093/bioinformatics/btab158](https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btab158)>. ‘RFCCA’ uses ‘randomForestSRC’ package (Ishwaran and Kogalur, 2020) by freezing at the version 2.9.3. The custom splitting rule feature is utilised to apply the proposed splitting rule. The ‘randomForestSRC’ package implements ‘OpenMP’ by default, contingent upon the support provided by the target architecture and operating system. In this package, ‘LAPACK’ and ‘BLAS’ libraries are used for matrix decompositions.

**Depends** R (>= 3.5.0)

**License** GPL (>= 3)

**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**RoxygenNote** 7.2.0

**Imports** CCA, PMA

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**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**URL** <https://github.com/calakus/RFCCA>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/calakus/RFCCA/issues>

**NeedsCompilation** yes

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RFCCA-package	<i>RFCCA: A package for computing canonical correlations depending on subject-related covariates with random forests</i>
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## Description

RFCCA is a random forest method for estimating the canonical correlations between two sets of variables depending on the subject-related covariates. The trees are built with a splitting rule specifically designed to partition the data to maximize the canonical correlation heterogeneity between child nodes. RFCCA uses 'randomForestSRC' package (Ishwaran and Kogalur, 2020) by freezing at the version 2.9.3. The custom splitting rule feature is utilised to apply the proposed splitting rule. The method is described in Alakus et al. (2021).

## RFCCA functions

`rfcca` `predict.rfcca` `global.significance` `vimp.rfcca` `plot.vimp.rfcca` `print.rfcca`

## References

Alakus, C., Larocque, D., Jacquemont, S., Barlaam, F., Martin, C.-O., Agbogba, K., Lippe, S., and Labbe, A. (2021). Conditional canonical correlation estimation based on covariates with random forests. *Bioinformatics*, 37(17), 2714-2721.

Ishwaran, H., Kogalur, U. (2020). Fast Unified Random Forests for Survival, Regression, and Classification (RF-SRC). R package version 2.9.3, <https://cran.r-project.org/package=randomForestSRC>.

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data	<i>Generated example data</i>
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**Description**

A generated data set containing three sets of variables: X, Y, Z. The canonical correlation between X and Y depends on some of the Z variables. The sample size is 300. Z1-Z5 are the important variables for the varying correlation between X and Y. Z6-Z7 are the noise variables.

**Usage**

```
data
```

**Format**

A list with three elements namely X, Y, Z. Each element has 300 rows. X has 2 columns, Y has 2 columns and Z has 7 columns.

**Examples**

```
## load generated example data  
data(data, package = "RFCCA")
```

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global.significance	<i>Global significance test</i>
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**Description**

This function runs a permutation test to evaluate the global effect of subject-related covariates (Z). Returns an estimated  $p$ -value.

**Usage**

```
global.significance(  
  X,  
  Y,  
  Z,  
  ntree = 200,  
  mtry = NULL,  
  nperm = 500,  
  nodesize = NULL,  
  nodedepth = NULL,  
  nsplit = 10,  
  Xcenter = TRUE,  
  Ycenter = TRUE  
)
```

**Arguments**

X	The first multivariate data set which has $n$ observations and $px$ variables. A data.frame of numeric values.
Y	The second multivariate data set which has $n$ observations and $py$ variables. A data.frame of numeric values.
Z	The set of subject-related covariates which has $n$ observations and $pz$ variables. Used in random forest growing. A data.frame with numeric values and factors.
ntree	Number of trees.
mtry	Number of z-variables randomly selected as candidates for splitting a node. The default is $pz/3$ where $pz$ is the number of z variables. Values are always rounded up.
nperm	Number of permutations.
nodesize	Forest average number of unique data points in a terminal node. The default is the $3 * (px + py)$ where $px$ and $py$ are the number of x and y variables, respectively.
nodedepth	Maximum depth to which a tree should be grown. In the default, this parameter is ignored.
nsplit	Non-negative integer value for the number of random splits to consider for each candidate splitting variable. When zero or NULL, all possible splits considered.
Xcenter	Should the columns of X be centered? The default is TRUE.
Ycenter	Should the columns of Y be centered? The default is TRUE.

**Value**

An object of class (rfcca, globalsignificance) which is a list with the following components:

call	The original call to global.significance.
pvalue	$p$ -value, see below for details.
n	Sample size of the data (NA's are omitted).
ntree	Number of trees grown.
nperm	Number of permutations.
mtry	Number of variables randomly selected for splitting at each node.
nodesize	Minimum forest average number of unique data points in a terminal node.
nodedepth	Maximum depth to which a tree is allowed to be grown.
nsplit	Number of randomly selected split points.
xvar	Data frame of x-variables.
xvar.names	A character vector of the x-variable names.
yvar	Data frame of y-variables.
yvar.names	A character vector of the y-variable names.
zvar	Data frame of z-variables.
zvar.names	A character vector of the z-variable names.

- predicted.oob OOB predicted canonical correlations for training observations based on the selected final canonical correlation estimation method.
- predicted.perm Predicted canonical correlations for the permutations. A matrix of predictions with observations on the rows and permutations on the columns.

### Details

We perform a hypothesis test to evaluate the global effect of the subject-related covariates on distinguishing between canonical correlations. Define the unconditional canonical correlation between  $X$  and  $Y$  as  $\rho_{CCA}(X, Y)$  which is found by computing CCA with all  $X$  and  $Y$ , and the conditional canonical correlation between  $X$  and  $Y$  given  $Z$  as  $\rho(X, Y|Z)$  which is found by `rfcca()`. If there is a global effect of  $Z$  on correlations between  $X$  and  $Y$ ,  $\rho(X, Y|Z)$  should be significantly different from  $\rho_{CCA}(X, Y)$ . We conduct a permutation test for the null hypothesis

$$H_0 : \rho(X, Y|Z) = \rho_{CCA}(X, Y)$$

We estimate a  $p$ -value with the permutation test. If the  $p$ -value is less than the pre-specified significance level  $\alpha$ , we reject the null hypothesis.

### See Also

[rfcca](#) [predict.rfcca](#) [print.rfcca](#)

### Examples

```
## load generated example data
data(data, package = "RFCCA")
set.seed(2345)

global.significance(X = data$X, Y = data$Y, Z = data$Z, ntree = 40,
  nperm = 5)
```

---

plot.vimp.rfcca      *Plot variable importance measures for rfcca objects*

---

### Description

Plots variable importance measures (VIMP) for subject-related z-variables for training data.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'rfcca'
plot.vimp(x, sort = TRUE, ndisp = NULL, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	An object of class (rfcca,grow) or (rfcca,predict).
sort	Should the z-variables be sorted according to their variable importance measures in the plot? The default is TRUE.
ndisp	Number of z-variables to display in the plot. If sort= TRUE, the most important ndisp z-variables will be plotted. Otherwise, the first ndisp z-variables in the original call will be plotted. The default value is NULL which will plot all of the z-variables.
...	Optional arguments to be passed to other methods.

**Value**

Invisibly, the variable importance measures that were plotted.

**See Also**

[vimp.rfcca](#)

**Examples**

```
## load generated example data
data(data, package = "RFCCA")
set.seed(2345)

## train rfcca
rfcca.obj <- rfcca(X = data$X, Y = data$Y, Z = data$Z, ntree = 100,
  importance = TRUE)

## plot vimp
plot.vimp(rfcca.obj)
```

---

predict.rfcca

*Predict method for rfcca objects*

---

**Description**

Obtain predicted canonical correlations using a rfcca forest for training or new data.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'rfcca'
predict(
  object,
  newdata,
  membership = FALSE,
```

```

    finalcca = c("cca", "scca", "rcca"),
    ...
  )

```

### Arguments

object	An object of class (rfcca, grow) created by the function rfcca.
newdata	Test data of the set of subject-related covariates (Z). A data.frame with numeric values and factors. If missing, the out-of-bag predictions in object is returned.
membership	Should terminal node membership information be returned?
finalcca	Which CCA should be used for final canonical correlation estimation? Choices are cca, scca and rcca, see <a href="#">rfcca</a> for details. The default is cca.
...	Optional arguments to be passed to other methods.

### Value

An object of class (rfcca, predict) which is a list with the following components:

call	The original grow call to rfcca.
n	Sample size of the test data (NA's are omitted). If newdata is missing, sample size of the training set.
ntree	Number of trees grown.
xvar	Data frame of x-variables.
xvar.names	A character vector of the x-variable names.
yvar	Data frame of y-variables.
yvar.names	A character vector of the y-variable names.
zvar	Data frame of test z-variables. If newdata is missing, data frame of training z-variables.
zvar.names	A character vector of the z-variable names.
forest	The (rfcca, grow) forest.
membership	A matrix recording terminal node membership for the test data where each cell represents the node number that an observation falls in for that tree.
predicted	Test set predicted canonical correlations based on the selected final canonical correlation estimation method. If newdata is missing, OOB predictions for training observations.
predicted.coef	Predicted canonical weight vectors for x- and y- variables.
finalcca	The selected CCA used for final canonical correlation estimations.

### See Also

[rfcca](#) [vimp.rfcca](#) [print.rfcca](#)

**Examples**

```
## load generated example data
data(data, package = "RFCCA")
set.seed(2345)

## define train/test split
smp <- sample(1:nrow(data$X), size = round(nrow(data$X) * 0.7),
  replace = FALSE)
train.data <- lapply(data, function(x) {x[smp, ]})
test.Z <- data$Z[-smp, ]

## train rfcca
rfcca.obj <- rfcca(X = train.data$X, Y = train.data$Y, Z = train.data$Z,
  ntree = 100)

## predict without new data (OOB predictions will be returned)
pred.obj <- predict(rfcca.obj)
pred.oob <- pred.obj$predicted

## predict with new test data
pred.obj2 <- predict(rfcca.obj, newdata = test.Z)
pred <- pred.obj2$predicted

## print predict objects
print(pred.obj)
print(pred.obj2)
```

---

print.rfcca

*Print summary output of a RFCCA analysis*


---

**Description**

Print summary output of a RFCCA analysis. This is the default print method for the package.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'rfcca'
print(x, ...)
```

**Arguments**

**x** An object of class (rfcca, grow), (rfcca, predict) or (rfcca, globalsignificance).  
**...** Optional arguments to be passed to other methods.

**Value**

No return value, called for side effects.



## Examples

```
## load generated example data
data(data, package = "RFCCA")
set.seed(2345)

## train rfcca
rfcca.obj <- rfcca(X = data$X, Y = data$Y, Z = data$Z, ntree = 100,
  importance = TRUE)

## print the grow object
print(rfcca.obj)
```

---

rfcca

*Random Forest with Canonical Correlation Analysis*

---

## Description

Estimates the canonical correlations between two sets of variables depending on the subject-related covariates.

## Usage

```
rfcca(
  X,
  Y,
  Z,
  ntree = 200,
  mtry = NULL,
  nodesize = NULL,
  nodedepth = NULL,
  nsplit = 10,
  importance = FALSE,
  finalcca = c("cca", "scca", "rcca"),
  bootstrap = TRUE,
  samptype = c("swor", "swr"),
  sampsize = if (samptype == "swor") function(x) {
    x * 0.632
  } else function(x)
  {
    x
  },
  forest = TRUE,
  membership = FALSE,
  bop = TRUE,
  Xcenter = TRUE,
```

```

    Ycenter = TRUE,
    ...
)

```

### Arguments

X	The first multivariate data set which has $n$ observations and $px$ variables. A data.frame of numeric values.
Y	The second multivariate data set which has $n$ observations and $py$ variables. A data.frame of numeric values.
Z	The set of subject-related covariates which has $n$ observations and $pz$ variables. Used in random forest growing. A data.frame with numeric values and factors.
ntree	Number of trees.
mtry	Number of z-variables randomly selected as candidates for splitting a node. The default is $pz/3$ where $pz$ is the number of z variables. Values are always rounded up.
nodesize	Forest average number of unique data points in a terminal node. The default is the $3 * (px + py)$ where $px$ and $py$ are the number of x and y variables, respectively.
nodedepth	Maximum depth to which a tree should be grown. In the default, this parameter is ignored.
nsplit	Non-negative integer value for the number of random splits to consider for each candidate splitting variable. When zero or NULL, all possible splits considered.
importance	Should variable importance of z-variables be assessed? The default is FALSE.
finalcca	Which CCA should be used for final canonical correlation estimation? Choices are cca, scca and rcca, see below for details. The default is cca.
bootstrap	Should the data be bootstrapped? The default value is TRUE which bootstraps the data by sampling without replacement. If FALSE is chosen, the data is not bootstrapped. It is not possible to return OOB predictions and variable importance measures if FALSE is chosen.
samptype	Type of bootstrap. Choices are swor (sampling without replacement/sub-sampling) and swr (sampling with replacement/ bootstrapping). The default action here (as in randomForestSRC) is sampling without replacement.
sampsiz	Size of sample to draw. For sampling without replacement, by default it is .632 times the sample size. For sampling with replacement, it is the sample size.
forest	Should the forest object be returned? It is used for prediction on new data. The default is TRUE.
membership	Should terminal node membership and inbag information be returned?
bop	Should the Bag of Observations for Prediction (BOP) for training observations be returned? The default is TRUE.
Xcenter	Should the columns of X be centered? The default is TRUE.
Ycenter	Should the columns of Y be centered? The default is TRUE.
...	Optional arguments to be passed to other methods.

**Value**

An object of class (rfcca, grow) which is a list with the following components:

call	The original call to rfcca.
n	Sample size of the data (NA's are omitted).
ntree	Number of trees grown.
mtry	Number of variables randomly selected for splitting at each node.
nodesize	Minimum forest average number of unique data points in a terminal node.
nodedepth	Maximum depth to which a tree is allowed to be grown.
nsplit	Number of randomly selected split points.
xvar	Data frame of x-variables.
xvar.names	A character vector of the x-variable names.
yvar	Data frame of y-variables.
yvar.names	A character vector of the y-variable names.
zvar	Data frame of z-variables.
zvar.names	A character vector of the z-variable names.
leaf.count	Number of terminal nodes for each tree in the forest. Vector of length ntree.
bootstrap	Was the data bootstrapped?
forest	If forest=TRUE, the rfcca forest object is returned. This object is used for prediction with new data.
membership	A matrix recording terminal node membership where each cell represents the node number that an observations falls in for that tree.
importance	Variable importance measures (VIMP) for each z-variable.
inbag	A matrix recording inbag membership where each cell represents whether the observation is in the bootstrap sample in the corresponding tree.
predicted.oob	OOB predicted canonical correlations for training observations based on the selected final canonical correlation estimation method.
predicted.coef	Predicted canonical weight vectors for x- and y- variables.
bop	If bop=TRUE, a list containing BOP for each training observation is returned.
finalcca	The selected CCA used for final canonical correlation estimations.
rfsrc.grow	An object of class (rfsrc, grow) is returned. This object is used for prediction with training or new data.

**Details**

**Final canonical correlation estimation:** Final canonical correlation can be computed with CCA (Hotelling, 1936), Sparse CCA (Witten et al., 2009) or Regularized CCA (Vinod, 1976; Leurgans et al., 1993). If Regularized CCA will be used,  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  should be specified.

## References

- Hotelling, H. (1936). Relations between two sets of variates. *Biometrika*, 28(3/4), 321–377.
- Leurgans, S. E., Moyeed, R. A., & Silverman, B. W. (1993). Canonical correlation analysis when the data are curves. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series B (Methodological)*, 55(3), 725-740.
- Vinod, H.D. (1976). Canonical ridge and econometrics of joint production. *Journal of econometrics*, 4(2), 147–166.
- Witten, D. M., Tibshirani, R., & Hastie, T. (2009). A penalized matrix decomposition, with applications to sparse principal components and canonical correlation analysis. *Biostatistics*, 10(3), 515-534.

## See Also

[predict.rfcca](#) [global.significance](#) [vimp.rfcca](#) [print.rfcca](#)

## Examples

```
## load generated example data
data(data, package = "RFCCA")
set.seed(2345)

## define train/test split
smp <- sample(1:nrow(data$X), size = round(nrow(data$X) * 0.7),
             replace = FALSE)
train.data <- lapply(data, function(x) {x[smp, ]})
test.Z <- data$Z[-smp, ]

## train rfcca
rfcca.obj <- rfcca(X = train.data$X, Y = train.data$Y, Z = train.data$Z,
                 ntree = 100, importance = TRUE)

## print the grow object
print(rfcca.obj)

## get the OOB predictions
pred.oob <- rfcca.obj$predicted.oob

## predict with new test data
pred.obj <- predict(rfcca.obj, newdata = test.Z)
pred <- pred.obj$predicted

## get the variable importance measures
z.vimp <- rfcca.obj$importance

## train rfcca and estimate the final canonical correlations with "scca"
rfcca.obj2 <- rfcca(X = train.data$X, Y = train.data$Y, Z = train.data$Z,
                  ntree = 100, finalcca = "scca")
```

---

vimp.rfcca	<i>Variable importance for rfcca objects</i>
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---

**Description**

Calculates variable importance measures (VIMP) for subject-related z-variables for training data.

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'rfcca'
vimp(object, ...)
```

**Arguments**

object	An object of class (rfcca,grow).
...	Optional arguments to be passed to other methods.

**Value**

An object of class (rfcca,predict) which is a list with the following components:

call	The original grow call to rfcca.
n	Sample size of the data (NA's are omitted).
ntree	Number of trees grown.
zvar	Data frame of z-variables.
zvar.names	A character vector of the z-variable names.
predicted.oob	OOB predicted canonical correlations for training observations based on the selected final canonical correlation estimation method.
finalcca	The selected CCA used for final canonical correlation estimations.
importance	Variable importance measures (VIMP) for each z-variable.

**See Also**

[plot.vimp.rfcca](#)

**Examples**

```
## load generated example data
data(data, package = "RFCCA")
set.seed(2345)

## train rfcca
rfcca.obj <- rfcca(X = data$X, Y = data$Y, Z = data$Z, ntree = 100)

## get variable importance measures
```

```
vimp.obj <- vimp(rfcca.obj)  
vimp.z <- vimp.obj$importance
```

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